

Headline News

- The world's third-largest aircraft manufacturer, **Embraer** of Brazil, and the largest Czech aerospace-technology firm, **AERO Vodochody**, will collaborate on the development and production of the new KC-390 multipurpose military transport plane. The companies concluded an agreement on the project in the middle of April during the LAAD defence-technology trade fair in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. From the beginning, CzechInvest assisted with bringing together the Czech side and the Brazilian aviation giant, i.e. in 2010 CzechInvest organised a Technology Days event in Brazil focused on supporting Czech-Brazilian cooperation in the aerospace industry.

Source: CzechInvest, **CIA**,
Apr 14

Business

- The Environment Ministry of the Czech Republic has approved the environmental impact assessment for the intention of **CTP Invest** to locate the production of **Grupo Antolin-Irausa** to the hall four in the framework of the completion of premise O13 in the industrial zone CTPark in Ostrava-Hrabova. The company will manufacture ceiling fillings of bodies for cars branded VW, Porsche or others there. The new

operation will likely employ 222 people in a three-shift operation.

Source: **CIA**, Apr 27

- Mohelnice-based plant **Siemens Elektromotory** will commence the construction of a new assembly hall for the production of electromotors in August of this year. The company will invest EUR 12 mln (CZK 289 mln) into the construction. According to the company, the goal of the construction is to develop the production of special and customer-based versions of motors. The new hall will likely be opened in a test operation in March 2012. The project will create a total of 200 new jobs. The plant employs nearly 2,200 people.

Source: **CIA**, Apr 27

- Locking system supplier **Brose CZ** will expand in Koprivnice its production capacities through the addition of new technologies for the production of seat and electric drive systems. The assistant to Brose CZ's managing director, Bronislava Lipova, has told CIA that the investment into the project will total EUR 100 mln (CZK 2.4 bln). Brose will create roughly 150 new job positions in relation to this expansion. The project is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2011.

Source: **CIA**, Apr 22

- NWT**, which is active in the information technology sector,

plans to build a shared service center, hi-tech product repair and development workshop in Strategic Industrial Zone Holesov. It will create 50 new jobs. According to company GM David Vitek, if NWT manages to commence construction at the end of this year, it will launch the facility in 2013.

Source: **CIA**, Apr 19

- Takenaka Europe** is asking for the environmental impact assessment for the completion of the current production hall of **T.Rad Czech** in Unhost. The built-up area will likely form a total of 32,853 square meters. The construction includes also an extension of the parking lot from 55 to 70 parking places. According to estimations, some 134 new employees will likely be hired in relation with the production extension.

Source: **CIA**, Apr 1

- Evráz Vitkovice Steel** is considering the construction of a new electric furnace, which will likely make it possible to process raw iron and scrap iron. Jaromir Krisica, the spokesman for the company, told CIA that the furnace would make it possible for the steel company to better react on prices of commodities. The project in the value of about CZK 3 bln is currently in the stage of preparations and its approval is a matter of months, Mr. Krisica said. The furnace could be built

until 2015 if the project is approved.

Source: **CIA**, Apr 22

R&D

- The European Commission has approved the **Extreme Light Infrastructure** (ELI) project. It is the first one of so-called big projects approved in the framework of the Operational Programme Research and Development for Innovations. According to information provided by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic (MSMT), ELI will include also a research complex in Dolní Brezany, Central Bohemia Region, for nearly CZK 7 bln. The centre will likely start its activities in 2014.

Source: **CIA**, Apr 20

- On Thursday March 31, the City of Plzeň launched stage II of the construction of **Plzeňský vedeckotechnologický park II**. Metrostav is to build seven multipurpose buildings in the Plzeň Municipal Industrial Park – Borská Pole by June 2012. Deputy Mayor for Economy Martin Zrzavecký said that the financial means estimated at CZK 300 mln will be provided by the city, national budget and EU structural funds.

Source: **CIA**, Apr 1

- The new Vysocina **Science and Technology Park** (VTP) and **Center for Technology Transfer** (CTT) focusing on energy will be created in Jihlava by 2014. Total investments into the center, which should become a key technology workplace in the Czech Republic, equal CZK 400 mln. The Industry and Trade Ministry will support the project through Operating Program Business and Innovation with a sum of CZK 300 mln.

Source: **CIA**, Apr 14

- During the first visit of **Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu** to the Czech Republic, Netanyahu and Czech Prime Minister Petr Nečas primarily discussed co-operation in the field of **science and research**. Nečas said that Czech Republic is

monitoring the programme of Israeli technology incubators bringing high value-added products and services. The prime ministers further discussed co-operation in economy, including defence industry and co-operation of armed forces in training and education.

Source: **CIA**, Apr 8

Infrastructure

- The Czech Republic offers prepared industrial zones in the heart of Europe for all types of investors, big and small, foreign and domestic. Strategic industrial zones, specifically Zatec Triangle and Most-Joseph in the Ústí Region, Ostrava-Mosnov in the Moravia-Silesia region, Holesov in the Zlín region and Kolin-Ovcary in the Central Bohemia region. The recent international conference titled "**Industrial Zones in the Czech Republic**", which was organised by CzechInvest in Prague on Tuesday, 26 April 2011, focused not only on these strategic zones in which a total 1,539 hectares of available spaces await investors.

Source: **CIA**, Apr 26

- Since 1998 **industrial zones** in the Czech Republic have received almost CZK 11 bln in subsidies. These were given to 103 zones (including 8 strategic ones). This was stated at the Industrial Zones in the Czech Republic conference by the director of Industry and Trade Ministry's EU funds, research and development section, Petr Očko, who added that the occupancy rate totals 70 %.

Source: **CIA**, Apr 26

Economy

- The **Czech Republic** is according to CB Richard Ellis an **attractive investment opportunity**. The yields of office properties in the Czech Republic were at the end of last year 50 b.p. higher than in Poland; in the first quarter of the year the difference was 25 b.p.. According to CBRE senior analyst Paulina Husová office yields in the Czech Republic are close to their cyclical

climax and CBRE expects their gradual reduction to continue in all sectors throughout this year and for this to continue in 2012.

Source: **CIA**, Apr 5

Culture

- The 66th year of the **Prague Spring International Music Festival** will take place from May 12 until June 4. Ceska informacni agentura is a cooperating partner of the 66th year.

Source: *WebReporter*, Apr 29

CzechInvest

- On 19 May 2011 **CzechInvest** organizes a seminar "**Opportunities for Business Development in the South Moravian Region**". The seminar will be held in Brno in cooperation with the Nordic Chamber of Commerce. The event will inform local entrepreneurs and managers about actual legislative topics and available business support.

Source: *CzechInvest*, Apr 29

- On 26 May, 2011 the **Italian Institute for Foreign Trade** organizes a seminar "**EU Funds: Investment in the Czech Republic with the European Support**". The seminar will be held in Prague in cooperation with CzechInvest and IBC Italian Business Center. The investment environment in the Czech Republic, business opportunities, support of investments into industrial zones and financial support from the EU funds will be the main topics of the seminar. The seminar will be held in Prague on 26 May 2011.

Source: *CzechInvest*, Apr 29

Exchange Rates
Averages for April 2011
EUR 1 = CZK 24.296
GBP 1 = CZK 27.534
USD 1 = CZK 16.845

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